

The Times-Dispatch

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1905.

This earthly life, when seen hereafter from heaven, will seem like an hour passed long ago, and dimly remembered; that long, laborious, full of joys and sorrows as it is, it will have dwindled down to a mere point, hardly visible to the far-reaching ken of the disembodied spirit.

LONGFELLOW.

Pledges Personal and Political.

Our Richmond contemporary is very emphatic in its assertions that individual Democrats should be bound by any pledge they may have been compelled to make at a Democratic primary. No matter whether the individual is afterwards convinced that the candidates nominated are unworthy and the conducting of the primary dishonest, the voter should sacredly keep the enforced pledge. The Times-Dispatch says that "self-assumed obligations" are not binding on a citizen, and that he is a dishonest man, according to the ethics of The Times-Dispatch. Our Richmond contemporary is not emphatic and earnest in its views as to the sacredness and inviolability of pledges made by its party in platforms and by its many leaders on the hustings. The Times-Dispatch not only approves of the violation by the Democratic party of its pledge to give free books to the free schools, but it denounces that pledge as demagogic and socialistic. The Dispatch didn't treat the pledge that way when it was made in 1885. Nor does the Times-Dispatch make any objection to the perfidious conduct of its party in violating the repeated pledge to submit the new Constitution to the people for ratification or rejection, and of its self-imposed obligation to do so. According to the very convenient ethics of The Times-Dispatch, it is hideously immoral for an honest man to break a pledge given at a Democratic primary, even after he has become disgusted with the principles and practices of that party. But he should consider it immoral and dishonest for the Democratic party to repeatedly break its most solemn pledges to the people. How can any honest man accept such teachings in political morality?—Tazewell Republican.

We are in no wise responsible for what the Dispatch did in 1885, and The Times was not in existence in that year. But we do not hesitate to say now that, in our opinion, the members of the General Assembly acted conscientiously and for the best interests of the Commonwealth when they declined to carry out the party promise to give free books. It was in no spirit of bad faith that this course was pursued, but the rather in a spirit of conscientious discharge of duty and of patriotism. If the editor of the Republican should, in a moment of effervescent generosity, promise his wife a carriage and horses for Christmas present, and if he should discover when the festive season arrived that in order to make the purchase he should have to mortgage the furniture and put her and the children on short rations, would he feel that honor required him to "redeem his pledge?"

As for the Constitutional Convention, that body was not responsible for any promise which the Democratic convention made. But each member was responsible for any pledge which he individually may have made to his constituency, and in honor bound to keep it. We recall that one member said at the time that he had stated in his canvass that if elected to the convention he would vote to have the new Constitution submitted to vote of the people, and, of course, we agreed with him that he was honorably bound to vote in convention against proclamation.

By the same token, we now insist that every Democrat who voted in the State primary last August is under sacred obligation to support the nominees of the party in the November election. What has occurred, pray, to release such a Democrat from his pledge? He knew all the candidates, as well then as he knows them now, and there has been no intimation that any man was nominated by fraud. He voluntarily assumed a gentleman's obligation, and he is under a gentleman's obligation to discharge it in good faith.

"How can any honest man accept the teachings in political morality" of a newspaper which advises otherwise? It is quite certain that no honorable Democrat will take counsel of such a teacher.

The Jamestown Exposition.

In the election of the Hon. Henry St. George Tucker as president of the Jamestown Exposition Company, to succeed the lamented Fitzhugh Lee, the directors of that company have made a vigorous move forward in their prosecution of the work. Perhaps no Virginian could have brought the same prestige to the enterprise that General Lee added to it, holding, as he did, a place of peculiar distinction in the hearts of the American people—almost as much in the North as in the South. But as a successor to General Lee we can recall no Virginian who can better fill the place and combine in himself more

of the elements necessary to insure success than does Mr. Tucker.

The problem is a difficult one, and perhaps Mr. Tucker fully realizes this fact; it is, therefore, none the less creditable to him that he has assumed such burdensome responsibilities not none the less incumbent upon all who wish Virginia to make a fair show in 1907 to give him all the help in their power.

We have never believed in an exposition, as ordinarily understood, as the proper or feasible form of the celebration of the founding of English civilization at Jamestown. The world has seen expositions too often and too recently to be attracted by any novelty in them. But it will be the part of Mr. Tucker and his board to formulate a programme for the summer and fall of 1907 that will attract, entertain and instruct a large attendance of people and fitly celebrate the great event of 1907.

It is very encouraging to know that Mr. Roosevelt has repeatedly expressed himself as most favorable to an emphatic and appropriate celebration of the settlement at Jamestown, and the weight of his great influence will be heartily thrown in the scale for a liberal appropriation by Congress and a cordial invitation to the nations of the world to participate.

If, for instance, it should occur to the President to call for a peace congress of the world, to be held then and there, who doubts but that there would be a hearty response?

We congratulate both the Jamestown Company and Mr. Tucker on their selection and his acceptance, and look for a revival of interest in the work and great activity.

Is It War?

Don Cipriano Castro is the enfant terrible of the family of nations. In proportion to his political insignificance, his vast aggressiveness is a thing to marvel at. The chip is very rarely off his shoulder. More or less secured by the mutual jealousies and rivalries of the great powers, and impelled by what can only be a personal recklessness and indifference to consequences, he manages to keep his little country in continual hot water. It is a cold day when Venezuela is not embroiled in some international wrangle. Just now it is France who has aroused Don Cipriano's ire, and the tension between them has become acute. Mr. Castro is accepting the situation with his usual imperturbability, but France is a good deal worried and makes no bones about saying so.

Concessions to the French Cable Company lie at the bottom of the present trouble. Castro made the concessions, and bargained for a quid pro quo in the form of certain undertakings on the part of the company. Now he alleges that the company failed to carry out its agreement, and has in retaliation taken possession of some of its property. France offered arbitration and Castro scorned it. Finally an entirely new issue was raised by an official note to M. Talien, the French chargé d'affaires, informing him that Venezuela declined to treat with him further.

This is the rather awkward situation in which the matter now rests. France has now not only to enforce the rights of its citizens as represented by the Cable Company, but also to maintain the dignity of her diplomatic representatives. M. Jusserand, the French ambassador, is known to have been in conference with the President, and has been assured that, so long as Venezuela's territory was respected, France has this country's authorization to take such disciplinary measures as she sees fit. In short, as a part paragraph has put it, if she wants to spank Castro, Uncle Sam is quite willing to look the other way.

This, however, is precisely what France does not want to do. As a Washington special to the New Orleans Times-Democrat points out, France's experience in trying to discipline smaller countries have, within recent memory, been rather disagreeable; and in general the punitive expedition, while no doubt occasionally necessary to the maintenance of national dignity, is only too likely to prove an expensive and unsatisfactory undertaking. In the case of Venezuela, such an expedition would be peculiarly embarrassing, in that geographical considerations would make a mere naval demonstration ineffective, unless followed by a landing of troops and a real invasion. And thirdly, France has to face the fact that any military operations in Venezuela are likely to interfere with that percentage of La Glayra and Puerto Cabello customs receipts which England, Germany and Italy, as the preferred creditor nations, are now enjoying. That these countries would view such an interference with their revenues with perfect complacency is hardly to be anticipated.

Yet what is France to do? Castro maintains his position in the most annoying way, declining to retract, apologize or treat further. France, too, has a position that she must, for her own self-respect, uphold, and should the Venezuelan hold to his present policy, it looks as if she must, despite herself, deliver an ultimatum and prepare for war.

Labor and the Laws of Trade.

We have read with interest the card of our friend, the Rev. Dr. M. Ashby Jones, in explanation of his sermon of last Sunday on the labor question. Mr. Jones says in general terms that what he insists upon is an equitable division between the employer and the employee of the profits derived from the labor and capital invested. Every fair-minded man is in accord with him in this view, but there are many things to be taken into consideration. All sorts of profit-sharing schemes have been attempted, but as a rule they have proven to be failures, for the simple reason that it is impracticable for employer and employee to enter into a co-partnership arrangement that will at all times and under all circumstances be fair to both sides. If conditions were always the same, if profits were always the same under all conditions, the profit-sharing arrangement might be made satisfactory all around. But an enterprise which pays handsome

ly this year may fail to show any profits whatever next year. Indeed, may be run at a loss. The workmen are quite willing to share in the profits so long as the profits are good, but, naturally, they are not willing to share in the losses, for the man who is dependent upon his labor for his daily bread is not able to work for nothing. Mr. Jones will find if he investigates that workmen are not willing to bind themselves for a term of years to take pot-luck with their employer, prospering when he prospers, and losing when he loses. It often happens in times of great prosperity that the men who do the work do not get their fair share of the profits, but it also happens in times of business depression that the workmen get their wages while the employer gets nothing, and sometimes conducts his business at a loss.

For these reasons it has been found to be the best rules to let the natural laws of trade have free course. Whenever that is the case, wages and profits will, on the average, adjust themselves, to each other. The main trouble is that laws are made which give this class or that class an advantage and which interfere with the fundamental principle of Democracy, of equal rights and opportunities to all and special privileges and benefits to none. If that principle be only carried out in the spirit as well as in the letter of it, every man in this country, whether he be employer or employee, will come pretty near getting what belongs to him, no more and no less.

Our Decoration Day.

Some of the business houses are already decorated for the President's visit and the promise of general decoration throughout the business districts is excellent. But we hope that the decorations will not be confined by any means to those sections. Private residences, especially those along the line of march, should be decorated in honor of our distinguished visitor.

The parade will form on Main Street, the infantry resting on Fifteenth, facing south. More specific details as to the formation itself will be published later. The line of march will be up Main Street to Fifth, thence to Franklin and along Franklin to the Jefferson Hotel. After a brief halt at the hotel the march will be resumed and the President will be escorted to the Capitol Square, where he will speak. This time the parade will move out Jefferson Street to Broad, down Broad to Ninth, and thence to Bank, where the column will halt. The President and his party will approach the speakers' stand from Bank Street. After the exercises at this point are concluded the line of march will be up Ninth Street to Grace and thence to Adams, where the parade will be dismissed.

It will be seen from this that the parade will pass through a large portion of the residence district and every house along the line should be decorated. We do not mean by this to say that house holders should go to any considerable expense, but it will cost very little to put of golden rod, brown-eyed susans and flags and at this season the fields are full of golden, brown-eyed susans and other wild flowers, which may be had for the gathering. It is easy, therefore, to decorate every residence along the line of parade and it would be a becoming compliment to the President.

Mr. Roosevelt comes to Richmond not of his own accord, but upon our invitation. He comes as our guest, and it should be a matter of pride with us to show him every possible mark of courtesy and hospitality. Newspapers from other sections will have representatives here to report the occasion, and some of the illustrated papers will make a feature of Richmond pictures in the next edition. Let us remember that it is not Mr. Roosevelt's occasion, but Richmond's occasion, and Richmond should show herself to the best possible advantage, as becomes the capital city of Virginia and the former capital of the Southern Confederacy.

The Cost of the Primary.

"It occurs to us," says the South Boston News, "that under the present system of assessments of candidates in primaries is a failure. Any system of nominations that will debar a person on account of cost from being a candidate for office will not be tolerated by the people of Virginia."

We confess that we were somewhat startled at the large expense accounts rendered by the candidates in the late Democratic primary, but we would direct the attention of our South Boston contemporary and the public generally to the fact that the actual expenses of election as indicated in the assessments of the several candidates, were very small as compared with the aggregate. The chief expenses were for travelling, for postage, for clerk hire and advertising, and it is not fair to charge these altogether against the primary.

If we had held a convention, the candidates would still have had to make a canvass, and there would have been considerable expenses for travelling, for clerk hire, advertising and postage.

No candidate before the primary was actually compelled to spend any more money in conducting his canvass than he would have been compelled to spend had the nominations been made by convention. But it was a fierce fight and those who entered into it used such means as they deemed expedient to promote their candidacy. Some of them spent more, some

less. Senator Martin's expenses were twice as great as Governor Montague's. Mr. Swanson's nearly twice as great as Judge Mann's, and Mr. Willard's considerably more than Mr. Swanson's. Therefore, it is not fair to denounce the primary and declare it must be abandoned simply because it has proven to be expensive to the candidates. We have never thought that it was just or good public policy to compel the candidates to pay the expenses of the election itself, and before another primary is held, some means must be devised to relieve them of that burden. But as to the personal expenses of the candidates they must be borne by the candidates themselves, no matter what method of nomination we may adopt. Must we abandon our regular elections and choose our officers of government by mass-meeting simply because it cost money to conduct them?

Free Books for Negro Children.

In calling the attention of the Virginia tax-payers to the fact that the Republican proposal to supply free books to the pupils of the public schools would mean free books to negro children, as well as to the white children, we have not meant to excite race animosity nor to show an unkind spirit towards the negro. Wherever it has been seriously proposed to divide the school funds in Virginia and give the negro children that part of it which the negro race pays into the public treasury, this paper has raised its voice in protest and resentment. We are proud that Virginia has dealt fairly and generously with the negro race in providing schools for the education of negro children, and we have no doubt that the money thus expended was well invested. If the negro children of the State had been allowed to grow up in ignorance, without any training or discipline, heaven only knows what a state of affairs we should have had.

But it is fair and it is reasonable and it is judicious that the negro should be made to pay as much as he is able towards the support of the public schools, and the white tax-payers should not be called upon to give the negro more than is necessary. Under the present law the local authorities are required to supply free books to indigent children, and there is no discrimination between the races. On this account the city of Richmond paid last year nearly \$1,000. We do not know how much of this went to the negro race, but the negro children got their fair proportion. Every negro child who was unable to purchase books was supplied with books at the public expense, but it is shown from this very fact that most parents, blacks as well as whites, are able to pay for books, and we cannot see any reason why the State should supply free books to those who are able to pay.

To sum it all up, we are perfectly willing that the negro children shall have their schools at the public expense, and we are perfectly willing that negro children who are unable to purchase books shall have them at the public expense, but we are unwilling that white tax-payers should be called upon to give books to those negro children whose parents are abundantly able to pay for them. There is nothing unkind in that. Indeed, it is to the negro's interest to make him as independent as possible.

A Hint to Richmond Jobbers.

The Star copied from the Richmond Times-Dispatch a few days ago an article about the splendid wholesale trade of Richmond. A Wilmington dealer dropped in to get the address of some Richmond jobbers, but failed to find any advertisement of the kind in The Times-Dispatch. It seems that our esteemed contemporary is doing a great deal for a branch of business that doesn't appreciate the value of a good advertising medium.—Wilmington, N. C. Star.

Richmond jobbers will please take note of this kindly admonition and govern themselves accordingly.

Battle of Fredericksburg.

The very interesting article on our Confederate Column page on the "Great Battle of Fredericksburg," was written by Rev. Dr. W. R. L. Smith, pastor of the Second Baptist church of this city, but by an oversight in making up that page his name did not appear. The article was originally written for Kind Words, a Baptist Church paper published in Nashville, Tenn.

God in All Things.

(Selected for The Times-Dispatch.) "He sendeth the springs into the valleys which run among the hills. . . . He watereth the hills from his chambers. . . . He causeth grass to grow for the cattle and herb for the service of man." Ps. cxxiv, 1-3.

Where does God come in? Everywhere. When? Always. Therefore the faith that perceives God in all history, all phenomena, all experience, and the unfaith that sees Him in none, we can see no middle-ground.

He is in the earthquake which shattered Lisbon, no less truly than in that which destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. He was in the cloud which hid the escaping American army from their pursuing foe after the battle of Long Island, no less than in the cloud which hid the escaping Israelites from the pursuing host of Egypt at the Red Sea. His presence makes the pine forest of our mountains, as sacred as cedars of Lebanon.

As He is in all physical phenomena, so is He in all human experience. He is with the prophets of the twentieth century after Christ, as truly as with the prophets of the centuries before Christ. He who inspired Bezabel with wisdom and understanding, and knowledge of all manner of workmanship to adorn the Temple, was also the inspirer of Michael Angelo also, and Christopher Wren.

The God of the plowman whom Isaiah worshipped, because He "doth instruct him aright and doth teach him," is no less the companion and guide of the American farmer.

It is as true now, as it was centuries ago, when the Book of Deuteronomy was written, that the word of God is not in heaven, that we should ascend up after it, nor beyond the seas, that we should go after in quest of it, but it is, "very

nigh unto thee, in thy mouth and in thy heart that thou mayest do it."

If God were not in America to-day, it would be of little service to us that He walked the hills and plains of Palestine twenty centuries ago. He is either all, and in all or—He is not. He is everywhere, or nowhere. His is the force that dominates all forces—the life that gives and is in all life. All the natural is also supernatural.

There is the same evidence of God in humanity that there is of God in nature. The unity of design is as true in the one as in the other. History is not a number of involved, and haphazard events.

"Through all the ages," the increasing purpose runs. History is the evolution of a new-created world out of a chaos of contradictory and conflicting purposes.

Humanity is an orchestra playing at a great composition under the leadership of one master mind. The musicians are stupid and cannot read the score, or they are wilful, perhaps, and will not lead the score. And yet, even now, there is some harmony and progress toward a better harmony in the future. Thus it is made clear to the thoughtful observer, that there must be a wise leader, and a full score somewhere, and that by and bye there will be a grand completed symphony. Yet even in this epoch which is but a poor, disjointed rehearsal, every note played aright is a divine note; every aspiration toward harmony is divinely inspired; every noble discontent is a divinely ordered dissonance.

The desire for peace is divine, and the peace which follows is divine. The prayer is divine, and the answer, is also divine. The noble resolve is divine, and the effective achievement is divine.

But you ask, "May not the mind alone do that?" Yes. But what the mind does, God does. No man has power apart from God, for "in Him we live and move, and have our being." This is no new theology. It is the old theology of the Bible. "Power," says the Psalmist, "belongeth unto God," and He giveth power to His people.

The electric currents are His—but He trusts to men their direction. The nerve currents are equally His, and equally their direction He intrusts to men. All activity of mind, body or health, has but one dynamo—God. Man is only allowed to direct the current.

Blessed is that man, who knows, that he is living in a divine world, and so uses the divine forces of the world of society, and his own soul in divine fellowship, and for divine ends.

The following extract is taken from the report of the investigation of the New York Mutual:

"During Mr. McCurdy's testimony it was brought out that George Raymond, a brother of Charles H. Raymond, was the general agent for New Jersey; that Howard Lewis, the general agent for Northern New York, with an office in Albany, was a cousin of either the vice-president, Mr. Grannis, or Mrs. Grannis, that Dr. E. J. Moss, the medical director of the Mutual Life, married a sister of the president of the company, and P. Stuyvesant Elliot, an inspector on risks, is a cousin of Lewis Theobald, son-in-law of President McCurdy and partner of the Raymond firm."

As a family affair, the Mutual is most appropriately named.

There is clamor for "light on the subject" of municipal ownership. What's the matter with the Richmond Gas Works? And when the municipal electric plant comes there is likely to be more light of the same brilliant character.

Miss Money, who christened the new battleship Mississippi, has just gotten married to Dr. Kitchen. It is confidently expected that the lucky Kitchen will be permanently improved by the valuable Money thus accruing.

The pot of money that King George laborer found is to be used for lifting the mortgage on the new parsonage. The laborer gets nothing but the pleasant consciousness that he has showed himself worthy of his hire.

If you are planning to enjoy an hour's chat with the President over one of your wife's cigars, don't fail to ring up your bookseller and order "The Winning of the West" and the collected works of Ernest Thompson-Seton Seton-Thompson.

If the principle of protection could be stretched to cover his little boom, our good Secretary of the Deficit would probably be willing to get down off the stump.

At the risk of making a bore of ourselves, we again remind you that a day on the clothes line will help to rid 'em of that campyromy smell.

If the head of your insurance company doesn't happen to be your uncle or your grandpa, you can at least—and your future demands it—marry his daughter.

THE WEATHER.

Forecast: Virginia—Fair Sunday; warmer in the interior; Monday fair, warmer; fresh east to south winds on the coast.

North Carolina—Fair Sunday, warmer except in extreme east portion; brisk northwesterly winds Monday fair, warmer.

Conditions Yesterday.

Richmond's weather was clear and cool.

Range of the thermometer:

8 A. M. 57 6 P. M. 63

12 M. 55 9 P. M. 57

3 P. M. 58 12 midnight 55

Average 60 1-2.

Highest temperature yesterday 60

Lowest temperature yesterday 46

Mean temperature yesterday 57

Normal temperature yesterday 50

Departure from normal temperature . . 10

Thermometer This Day Last Year

8 A. M. 49 6 P. M. 62

12 M. 45 9 P. M. 45

3 P. M. 53 12 midnight 46

Average 51-2.

Conditions in Important Cities.

(At 8 P. M., Eastern Time.)

Place. Weather.

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